



MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL DIGITAL INCLUSION AND BROADBAND STRATEGY

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2017

The Council of the City of San José convened in Special Session at 1:37 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Present: Council Members - Arenas, Davis, Diep (1:47 p.m.), Jimenez, Jones (1:54 p.m.), Khamis, T. Nguyen, Peralez (1:45), Rocha; Liccardo.

Absent: Council Members - Carrasco. (Excused)

Staff: City Attorney Richard Doyle; City Manager Dave Sykes; Deputy City Manager Julie Edmonds-Mares; Deputy City Manager, Civic Innovation & Digital Strategy, Kip Harkness; Chief Information Officer Rob Lloyd; Library Director Jill Bourne; City Clerk Toni J. Taber, and Deputy City Clerk Ruth Krantz.

Documents Filed: (1) Memorandum from Deputy City Manager, Civic Innovation and Digital Strategy, Kip Harkness, dated November 6, 2017, recommending approval of staff recommendations. (2) Attachment A: Broadband and Digital Inclusion Strategy Recommendations; (3) Attachment B: Digital Inclusion Strategy Report; (4) Attachment C: Digital Inclusion Strategy Report Recommendations Matrix; (5) Attachment D: Broadband and Digital Inclusion Gaps & Opps Assessment; Attachment E: Digital Inclusion Street Survey Results.

INTRODUCTION

Mayor Sam Liccardo presented opening comments. Deputy City Manager, Civic Innovation and Digital Strategy, Kip Harkness offered introductory remarks on the importance of the issue and presented the agenda.

STORIES FROM THE COMMUNITY

Gabrielle Hernandez from SOMOS Mayfair Community Center and Angelica Flores offered stories from community-based organizations, including barriers faced by low-income residents. Matt Day, Managing Director of Founders Floor shared experiences incubating Founders Floor, a co-working accelerator for startups. Warren Gannon, with the Senior Commission, spoke on seniors' access to digital connectivity. These participants responded to questions from the Council.

Library Director Jill Bourne spoke on library access and Chief Information Officer Rob Lloyd responded to questions regarding connectivity at community centers.

CURRENT STATE OF BROADBAND AND DIGITAL INCLUSION

Smart City Lead, Dolan Beckel, spoke on current assessment of broadband and digital inclusion in San José. Pearla Ni, founder of GreatNonprofits provided survey data derived from Community Insight's survey in San José, and Community Programs Administrator, Samantha Cramer discussed information gleaned from focus groups and interviews. Dolan Beckel continued the presentation.

Councilmember Donald Rocha left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

STRATEGY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Price Waterhouse principal Chris O'Brien spoke on Hybrid strategy approach and "Government Lead" strategies. Council discussion followed, and Dolan Beckel discussed staffing and leadership, policy updates, governance, infrastructure and funding and program expansion.

LESSONS LEARNED FROM PEER CITIES

A pre-recorded video of Jim Loter, Director of Digital Engagement, from the City of Seattle, offered an overview of their organization digital equity, broadband policy/advocacy and smart city strategies.

ACTIONS RELATED TO DIGITAL INCLUSION AND BROADBAND STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS.

Deputy City Manager, Civic Innovation & Digital Strategy, Kip Harkness recommended approval of the "no regrets" digital inclusion and broadband strategy recommendations.

Mayor Sam Liccardo opened the floor for public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Blair Beekman urged continued transparency, and indicated he did not like the term “no regrets”

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Raul Peralez, seconded by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez and carried unanimously, the staff’s recommendations related to the Digital Inclusion and Broadband Strategy were approved. (9-0-2. Absent: Carrasco, Rocha.)

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Sam Liccardo adjourned the Special Meeting at 4:46 p.m.

Minutes Recorded, Prepared and Respectfully Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Toni J. Taber", is written over the text "Minutes Recorded, Prepared and Respectfully Submitted by,".

Toni J. Taber, CMC
City Clerk

rmk/11-13-17 Broadband